



PRESS RELEASE

BROKEN ARROW POLICE DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Law says "CLEAR THE ROAD"



Broken Arrow Police join other local and state agencies in announcing a new law that will affect Oklahoma drivers. Effective November 1, 2003 the Oklahoma "Quick Clearance" law takes effect. This new law will require that any motorist who finds themselves blocking the road as a result of a non-injury crash or a disabled vehicle will be required to "make every reasonable effort" to remove their vehicles from the roadway so as to not impede the flow of traffic.

According to the new law, vehicles should be moved from the roadway unless there is a fatality, injury or hazardous materials involved in the incident. Should you find yourself involved in a minor traffic collision, you will be required to move your vehicle off the road if possible. Should your vehicle become disabled, you must make all reasonable attempts to move the vehicle from the traffic way. Simply put, drivers are being asked to "Clear the Road".

The intent of the changes to Oklahoma statutes Title 47 11-1001 and 11-1002 is to reduce the amount of congestion and related problems for area motorists. Studies show that 60% of all traffic delays result from collisions. For every minute a crash remains in the road, traffic is delayed an average of five additional minutes. The longer traffic is delayed, the more likely another serious crash may occur. The Federal Highway Administration estimates that 20% of all highway collisions are secondary to other events. Blocked roadways are dangerous for motorists, emergency responders, cause delays to motorists and have a negative economic and environmental impact. For this reason the "Clear the Road" law has been established. Drivers who fail to heed this new law may find themselves receiving a traffic citation after January 1st, 2004.

We invite our media partners to a press conference to announce this new law for state motorists. It will be held at the Oklahoma Welcome Center located at 16200 E. Skelly Dr in Tulsa, at I-44 and 161st E. Ave on **Wednesday, October 29th, 2003 at 10:00**. Area law enforcement, transportation and state representatives will provide more information at that time.

For more information, contact:

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